

# TOWN HALL TALKS

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## Departments at a Glance

**Veterans:** The newly relocated Resource & Referral Center is now at 294 Main Street with three computer workstations and a volunteer available. A wellness clinic, in conjunction with the Health Department, is scheduled for August. Efforts are underway towards consolidating Franklin County Veteran Services after approval from the State.

**Library:** The MA Board of Library Commissioners awarded the Greenfield Public Library a \$50,000 Planning & Design grant for a redesign of the current library.

**Energy:** In partnership with WMECo and Berkshire Gas, approximately 50 downtown small businesses have received free energy upgrades. The SAPHIRE program of the MA School Building Authority will replace the boiler at the Green River School with a clean energy heating system. The school is also part of the MSBA's Accelerated Repair Program for potential repairs to the roof and replacement of windows/doors.

**Department of Public Works:** The Department has been awarded \$33,908 from the MA DOER for two clean energy projects at Greenfield's wastewater treatment plant. Sidewalks and parking lots throughout town are undergoing reconstruction/replacement this spring/summer.

**Greenfield Fire Department:** The GFD is the recipient of two grants totaling \$15,000, one for the installation of free smoke detectors for seniors, and the other for purchase of a newer pick-up truck. Rescue equipment and the radio system are in the process of being updated. The annual Health and Safety Day is in the planning stages for October.

**Greenfield Police Department:** An award of \$12,267 from the MA Department of Justice is being used by the GPD for various technical improvements, and the department has submitted a COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) Hiring Grant application for two additional positions. Dispatch is applying for two grants from MA State 911 Training to cover additional dispatchers and their salaries.

**Planning:** Under the LED Street Lighting Project, 400 LED street lights have been installed throughout the Town with work ongoing. Greenfield's Municipal Aggregation Plan is first in line with the MA Dept. of Public Utilities and is expected to be approved shortly.

**Recreation:** A \$200,000 grant from the State's Our Common Backyard program will be used for a splash pad in Hillside Park. As a "Playful City USA" for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, Greenfield has received \$20,000 to rebuild the Federal St. School playground.

**Economic Development:** The Town Council has voted to purchase the Lunt ball fields for \$600,000 with environmental clean up by the EPA at no cost to the Town. Kennametal has been offered a property tax break to consolidate in Greenfield.

## Council on Aging



**"Three Nurses"**

Volunteer of the Year Dorothy Gagnon, RN  
Hope Macary, COA Director, RN  
William Martin, Mayor, RN

"I guess we're in good shape if there's a medical emergency this morning," quipped Ms. Gagnon, a long-time Senior Center volunteer, Council on Aging board member, and member of the New Senior Center Committee. The Greenfield Council on Aging Volunteer Recognition Brunch was held at the Senior Center on Friday, May 9, 2014. The theme was "Volunteers are Priceless." The keynote speaker, Winfield Scott Hall, offered words of wisdom and inspiration to the group of over 60 active COA volunteers who attended, along with Mayor William Martin, Rep. Paul Mark, and Council President Mark Wisnewski. The Volunteer Program is celebrating the 5th Anniversary of receiving a Special Citation of Excellence from Senator Stan Rosenberg's office. The Volunteer Recognition Brunch was sponsored by a grant from the MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

## From Lane Kelly, Director of Finance:

As FY14 comes to a close, you should be happy to know that your hard work to maximize revenue and control spending to stay within your budgets has paid off.

Revenues for FY14 continue to be healthy as reported through May. Licenses and permits are running about 40% over budget which will come as no surprise to those departments, and clearly all departments are having a productive year.

In the grand scheme of things, we do not have huge amounts of money being moved to balance budgets. We are transferring just over \$200,000 from Free Cash and \$33,000 from Capital Stabilization to cover deficits in departments and capital articles, but some of that is to ensure we have reserve funds for unforeseen deficits that might develop before July 15. Some departmental deficits, totaling less than \$25,000, are being covered through interdepartmental transfers, and we have appropriated enough money to close out the health insurance mitigation account established two years ago.

I am proud to say that we have a most professional staff working diligently for the citizens of Greenfield, and I am sure the Mayor joins me in commending and thanking everyone for a job well done to make FY14 a successful year.